

Claims

- [c1] A connector strap for a truss made up of a matrix of interconnected chords comprising:
- a web having a first end and a second end;
 - a first sidestep portion extending laterally from the first end of the web;
 - a second sidestep portion extending laterally from the second end of the web;
- wherein the first sidestep portion and the second sidestep portion cooperate to form a recess whereby the connector strap can be used to interconnect a first and a second chord member of the truss while being passed around a third chord member of the truss that is disposed in the recess.
- [c2] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the web is elongated.
- [c3] The connector strap of claim 2 wherein the web is planar.
- [c4] The connector strap of claim 3 wherein the web includes a hinge portion between the first end and the second end thereof, wherein the first sidestep portion can

thereby be pivoted with respect to the second sidestep portion.

- [c5] The connector strap of claim 4 wherein the web includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c6] The connector strap of claim 5 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.
- [c7] The connector strap of claim 5 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.
- [c8] The connector strap of claim 5 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.
- [c9] The connector strap of claim 5 wherein the mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c10] The connector strap of claim 5 wherein the first sidestep portion includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c11] The connector strap of claim 10 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.
- [c12] The connector strap of claim 10 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.
- [c13] The connector strap of claim 10 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.

- [c14] The connector strap of claim 10 wherein the mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c15] The connector strap of claim 10 wherein the second sidestep portion includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c16] The connector strap of claim 15 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.
- [c17] The connector strap of claim 15 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.
- [c18] The connector strap of claim 15 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.
- [c19] The connector strap of claim 15 wherein the mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c20] The connector strap of claim 15 wherein the web is deformable between a first linear position and a second final mounting position, whereby the web can be deformed when mounted between a pair of chord members in the truss.
- [c21] The connector strap of claim 20 wherein the first sidestep portion has an integral mounting portion thereon and the second sidestep portion has a field mounting thereon.

- [c22] The connector strap of claim 21 wherein the integral mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c23] The connector strap of claim 22 wherein the integral mounting portion of the first sidestep portion is integrally mounted to a first chord member of the truss at the time of manufacture of the truss, and the second sidestep portion is extended from the first truss member in a position adapted to receive a second chord member of the truss.
- [c24] The connector strap of claim 23 wherein the second truss member is mounted to the second sidestep portion of the connector when the truss is erected in the field.
- [c25] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein a third truss member is positioned within the recess of the connector to allow the connector to wrap around the third chord member when mounting the first and second chord members together with the connector.
- [c26] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first and second sidestep portions extend from the respective first and second ends of the connector in substantially the same lateral direction.
- [c27] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first and sec-

ond sidestep portions extend angularly from the respective first and second ends of the connector in substantially the same direction.

[c28] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first and second sidestep portions extend from the respective first and second ends of the connector in substantially the opposite lateral direction.

[c29] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first and second sidestep portions extend angularly from the respective first and second ends of the connector in substantially the opposite direction.

[c30] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein at least one of the first and second sidestep portions extends generally parallel to the web, and is interconnected to the web in an offset manner by a laterally-extending connecting web.

[c31] The connector strap of claim 30 wherein the laterally-extending connecting web is oriented angularly with respect to the web.

[c32] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the web includes a hinge portion between the first end and the second end thereof, wherein the first sidestep portion can thereby be pivoted with respect to the second sidestep

portion.

- [c33] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the web includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c34] The connector strap of claim 33 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.
- [c35] The connector strap of claim 33 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.
- [c36] The connector strap of claim 33 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.
- [c37] The connector strap of claim 33 wherein the mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c38] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first sidestep portion includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c39] The connector strap of claim 38 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.
- [c40] The connector strap of claim 38 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.
- [c41] The connector strap of claim 38 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.
- [c42] The connector strap of claim 38 wherein the mounting

portion comprises a nail plate.

[c43] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the second sidestep portion includes at least one mounting portion thereon.

[c44] The connector strap of claim 43 wherein the mounting portion comprises an aperture.

[c45] The connector strap of claim 43 wherein the mounting portion comprises an integral connector.

[c46] The connector strap of claim 43 wherein the mounting portion comprises a drivable connector.

[c47] The connector strap of claim 43 wherein the mounting portion comprises a nail plate.

[c48] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the web is deformable between a first linear position and a second final mounting position, whereby the web can be deformed when mounted between a pair of chord members in the truss.

[c49] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the first sidestep portion has an integral mounting portion thereon and the second sidestep portion has a field mounting thereon.

- [c50] The connector strap of claim 49 wherein the integral mounting portion comprises a nail plate.
- [c51] The connector strap of claim 49 wherein the integral mounting portion of the first sidestep portion is integrally mounted to a first chord member of the truss at the time of manufacture of the truss, and the second sidestep portion is extended from the first truss member in a position adapted to receive a second chord member of the truss.
- [c52] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein the second truss member is mounted to the second sidestep portion of the connector when the truss is erected in the field.
- [c53] The connector strap of claim 1 wherein a third truss member is positioned within the recess of the connector to allow the connector to wrap around the third chord member when mounting the first and second chord members together with the connector.
- [c54] A prefabricated roof truss that is positionable in a first collapsed position and a second erected position comprising:
a matrix of interconnected chord members forming a truss in the second erected position;
a first chord member of the truss having a connector

strap mounted thereto, the connector strap having a first end interconnected to the first chord member and a second end extending therefrom, the first and second ends having an offset portion therebetween that defines a recess therebetween;

a second chord member that is positionable adjacent to the first chord member, wherein the second end of the connector is adapted to be interconnected to the second chord member when the truss is positioned in the second, erected position;

a third chord member positionable adjacent to and generally orthogonally to the first and second chord members and generally intersecting the first and second chord members, wherein the third chord member is at least partially received in the recess of the connector when the first and second ends thereof are mounted to the respective first and second chords.

[c55] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the connector includes a hinge portion between the first end and the second end thereof, wherein the first sidestep portion can thereby be pivoted with respect to the second sidestep portion.

[c56] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first end of the connector includes at least one mounting portion thereon.

- [c57] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 56 wherein the mounting portion comprises at least one of an aperture, an integral connector, a drivable connector, and a nail plate.
- [c58] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 57 wherein the second end of the connector includes at least one mounting portion thereon.
- [c59] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 58 wherein the mounting portion comprises at least one of an aperture, an integral connector, a drivable connector, and a nail plate.
- [c60] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein an intermediate portion of the connector is deformable between a first linear position and a second final mounting position, whereby the connector can be deformed when mounted between the first and second chord members of the truss.
- [c61] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first end of the connector has an integral mounting portion thereon and the second end of the connector has a field mounting thereon.
- [c62] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 61 wherein the in-

tegral mounting portion comprises at least one of an aperture, an integral connector, a drivable connector, and a nail plate.

- [c63] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 61 wherein the integral mounting portion of the first end of the connector is integrally mounted to the first chord member of the truss at the time of manufacture of the truss, and the second end of the connector is extended from the first chord member in a position adapted to receive the second chord member of the truss.
- [c64] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the second chord member is mounted to the second end of the connector when the truss is erected in the field.
- [c65] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first and second ends of the connector extend from the connector in substantially the same lateral direction.
- [c66] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first and second ends of the connector extend angularly from the connector in substantially the same direction.
- [c67] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first and second ends of the connector extend from the connector in substantially the opposite lateral direction.

[c68] The prefabricated roof truss of claim 54 wherein the first and second ends of the connector extend angularly from the connector in substantially the opposite direction.